

BENCH-BAR-MEDIA CONFERENCE

MINUTES OF MAY 21, 1998 MEETING

The Bench-Bar-Media Conference convened on May 21, 1998 in all three counties simultaneously at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was open to the public. Present (in New Castle County unless otherwise noted) were:

Members from the Bench

Justice Randy J. Holland
Judge Roderick R. McKelvie

Members from the Bar

Richard Kirk, Vice Chair

Members from the Print Media

Rita Farrell
John Taylor

Members from the Electronic Media

Michael Sigman, Chair
William D. Osborne
Todd Halliday

In the absence of what was thought required to constitute a quorum, the meeting was informational only.

1. Officers for next year

By custom, the vice chair assumes the chair (and would have with sufficient votes to constitute a quorum). Also by custom, the print media will nominate the vice chair for the coming year, who will become chair the year after. The conference decided to await the first meeting in the fall to conduct an official election. The print media representatives will nominate their officer at that time.

2. Internet Seminar

The members of the conference discussed the cancellation and possible rescheduling of the Internet Seminar. September 11 is the tentative date for the rescheduled seminar.

3. Cameras in the courtroom

We have the opportunity to pull together information that may be of use to the Supreme Court in deciding this issue. The members suggested contacting Court TV to come to Delaware to present a demonstration of how cameras can be used in the courtroom, and particularly what actual output from those cameras will eventually reach the public by broadcast. The members agreed to make the issue a top priority in the coming year.

4. Mike Sigman's farewell

Mike Sigman thanked the members of the conference for a great year. He announced that he was changing positions within his organization and would accordingly be resigning from the conference. The members thanked and commended Mike for his leadership and enthusiasm.

5. Old Business

There was no old business remaining from any prior session.

6. New Business

No new business was introduced.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on September 17, 1998. Once again, video conferencing will be available from the Grand Jury room in New Castle County, and the Judges' Chambers in the Kent County Courthouse and the Sussex County Courthouse.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m.